PATENT

Docket No. 29273/550

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Tomoo YAMAMOTO et al.

SERIAL NO. : (Unassigned)

FILED : 21 May 2001

FOR : MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC

RECORDING APPARATUS

GROUP ART UNIT: (Unassigned)

EXAMINER : (Unassigned)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments.

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 7 and add new claims 12-15 as follows.

- 7. (Amended) A magnetic recording medium as defined in claim 1, wherein the magnetic layer has an h.c.p. structure and is oriented in (11.0) direction relative to the plane parallel with the substrate.
- -- 12. (New) A magnetic recording medium as defined in claim 2, wherein the magnetic layer has an h.c.p. structure and is oriented in (11.0) direction relative to the plane parallel with the substrate. --

 -- 13. (New) A magnetic recording medium as defined in claim 3, wherein the magnetic layer has an h.c.p. structure and is oriented in (11.0) direction relative to the plane parallel with the substrate. --

-- 14. (New) A magnetic recording medium as defined in claim 4, wherein the magnetic layer has an h.c.p. structure and is oriented in (11.0) direction relative to the plane parallel with the substrate. --

-- 15. (New) A magnetic recording medium as defined in claim 5, wherein the magnetic layer has an h.c.p. structure and is oriented in (11.0) direction relative to the plane parallel with the substrate. --

REMARKS

Claim 7 has been amended to delete the multiple dependency. New claims 12-15 were added to recover some of the matter thus deleted. No new matter has been added. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to claim 7. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Examination in light of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any information concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Date: 21 May 2001

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Tel. (202) 220-4200 Fax. (202) 220-4201 Respectfully submitted,

John C. Altmiller (Reg. No. 25,951)

Version with markings to show changes made

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. A magnetic recording medium as defined in [any of claims 1 to 5] <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the magnetic layer has an h.c.p. structure and is oriented in (11.0) direction relative to the plane parallel with the substrate.

New claims 12-15 were added as shown above.